

L.—*Descriptions of some new Species of Butterflies of the Subfamily Pierinæ.* By ARTHUR G. BUTLER, Ph.D.

THE following species in the Museum collection have hitherto remained unnamed:—

Mylothris bogotana, sp. n.

♀. Allied to *M. malenka*, but differing in the pattern of the primaries, the tawny discoidal and somewhat shorter submedian longitudinal streaks becoming sulphur-yellow at the extremities; beyond and well separated from these are two isolated yellow spots placed obliquely, and beyond the cell three elongated spots of the same colour in an oblique subapical series instead of the oblique quadrifid belt of *M. malenka*.

Expanse of wings 75 millim.

Santa Fé de Bogotá (*Stevens*). B. M.

This is not likely to be a variety of the Venezuelan species, as it is believed that in this group the variations of the female are not very great.

Elodina Walkeri, sp. n.

Allied to *E. perdita*, the male with shorter primaries; the apical patch always as broad as in *E. perdita* ♀, and not incised or dentated below the third median branch: apex of primaries below silvery, with three increasing blackish subapical spots in an oblique series; a sulphur-yellow subcostal streak from base, and in the discoidal cell a saffron-yellow suffusion: secondaries silvery white; a blackish dot at end of cell and four or five blackish discal spots in an obtusely angular series between the nervures.

Expanse of wings 38 millim.

Port Darwin (*J. J. Walker*). B. M.

We have six examples, of which five were collected by Mr. Walker; the sixth is one of our oldest specimens, the registered locality for which was simply "New Holland."

Elodina baudiniana, sp. n.

Also allied to *E. perdita*, but distinctly smaller and very uniform in pattern: above pearly snow-white; primaries with costal margin smoky greyish, basal half of costal border flesh-

tinted, a rather narrow blackish apical patch, widest on costa (where it occupies about the external two-fifths of the margin) and tapering to extremity of second median branch, its inner edge dentated; a small and slightly browner spot at extremity of first median branch: below like the preceding species, but the black spots often very indistinct.

Expanse of wings 33-38 millim.

Baudin Island (*J. J. Walker*). B. M.

Of this species we have fourteen examples.

Terias Chamberlaini, sp. n.

♂. Bright gamboge-yellow; costal margin of primaries very delicately black, excepting towards the base; costa sprinkled with black scales to end of discoidal cell; extreme base of cell and of submedian vein marked by short black dashes; outer border narrowly dark brown, commencing at about two-fifths of the length from apex and tapering to extremity of first median branch, its inner edge zigzag from the third median branch hindwards: secondaries with a conspicuous pure white glandular patch towards base above the subcostal vein; veins terminating in very minute black dots followed by orange spots at the base of the fringe: body normal. Under surface gamboge-yellow, sparsely and very finely irrorated with brown atoms; a well-defined black spot at the end of each discoidal cell; fine black dots followed by orange angular markings terminating the veins, the orange markings uniting and covering the fringe towards apex of primaries; a pure white glandular patch between median and submedian veins towards base of primaries; a very indistinct **W**-shaped series of squamose brown spots crossing disk of secondaries.

Expanse of wings 30 millim.

Bahamas (*Neville Chamberlain*). B. M.

We only possess one male of this pretty little species. If Felder's statement was correct that his *T. smilacina* nearly approached *T. smilax* both in pattern and structure, this would be the second New-World species of the *T. leta* group; but an examination of Felder's description clearly shows that his species did not possess the glandular patches which characterize the *T. leta* group, and therefore was "wirklich nicht zunächst verwandt" to *T. smilax* (as he ought to have said).

LI.—*The Boa-Constrictors of British Guiana.*

By J. J. QUELCH, B.Sc. Lond., C.M.Z.S.*

THESE reptiles possess a somewhat special interest for residents in tropical America, seeing that they are at once a pest and a pest-destroyer in the general economy of nature. The term boa-constrictor in common parlance is applied to any snake that secures its prey by enwrapping and crushing it to death, and it is more frequently used perhaps to denote the great pythons of Asia and Africa than the constricting snakes of tropical America, to one species of which—the great land-boa—in a strict system of nomenclature the name rightly belongs. The Boas are thus typically the constrictors of the New World, though they are not confined to it.

Locally the word Camoodie is synonymous with boa-constrictor, and the various species are denoted by such terms as Water-Camoodie, Land-Camoodie, Tree-Camoodie, &c. Generally, however, the water species is referred to particularly as Camoodie, this being the commonest, or, at any rate, that one which is found most frequently, close to the haunts of man; and as it is also the largest, it has come to figure in the public mind as the typical boa-constrictor, in place of its land congener, to which the name belongs.

This group of snakes will readily be recognized here by two very simple characters. The jaws are long and carry each a series of more or less curved and elongated teeth, and the top of the head is covered with small scales of much the same size as those over the body, and not with the larger shields or plates met with in the harmless snakes.

Of all the species the water-boa, which is known technically as *Eunectes murinus*, will be most easily recognized. Its markings and colour are nearly the same in all individuals and at all ages. Above, it is of a glossy brownish black, with a double row of large oval black marks arranged transversely; below, it is mottled or streaked with black and yellowish white; while along each side there is a series of yellow patches surrounded by a black border.

During life the tints are vivid enough, but when the snake is preserved and the skin taken from the body and dried the colours become dull. The skins, however, are in great request for slippers, belts, pouches, and other similar useful or ornamental objects.

* From 'Timehri: the Journal of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana,' December 1897, pp. 294-313.